



CANNON BUILDING
861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF CHARITABLE GAMING

TELEPHONE: (302) 744-4500
FAX: (302) 739-2711
WEBSITE: DPR.DELAWARE.GOV
EMAIL: customerservice.dpr@state.de.us

MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF CHARITABLE GAMING
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room B , second floor of the Cannon Building
MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:	September 28, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Janet Williams-Coger, Non-Profit Member, Chair
James Ascione, Public Member
Francis Gant, Delaware Firefighters Association Member
Richard MacDonald, State Lottery Office Member
Jay Mervine, Public Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Meredith Hurley, Administrative Specialist II
Eric Rauch, Gaming Inspector
Jennifer Singh, Deputy Attorney General

PUBLIC PRESENT

Bonnie Howell, Milford Elks
Bruce Howell, Milford Elks
Jim LoFland, Moose
Bessie Staab-Hickman, Moose
John Mitchell, VFW
Billy Hitchens, Legion Post 24
Ron DiFrancis, Legion Post 24
Debby Messina, Dover Elks
Ed Bergen, Post 17 Lewes
Tom Gillespie, American Legion
Rus Carney, American Legion

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Williams-Coger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Conduct Deliberations from Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments to Board's Rules and Regulations

To date, the Governor has not taken action on SB 254, which could affect the deliberations on the bingo changes. Mr. Gant made a motion, seconded by Mr. MacDonald, to table the deliberations until the legislation has taken effect. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting Minutes - July 27, 2016

Mr. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gant, to approve the July 27, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Queen of Hearts

Ms. Singh summarized the memo created by Mr. Maloney regarding the Queen of Hearts game. The memo stated that the Board could not authorize, permit, license or otherwise sanction a game, event or function designed to utilize a carryover or cumulative pot or prize. New legislation would be necessary to authorize the playing of such a game.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratification of Bingo Event Permits Issued

Mr. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gant, to ratify the following bingo permit events listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorder Association Inc.
Frederica Volunteer Fire Company
Indian River Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
Oak Orchard Riverdale American Legion Post 28
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Mill Creek Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary
Cape Henlopen Senior Center, Inc.
Christiana Fire Company
Frederica Spring Creek Lions
Ladies Auxiliary Good Will Fire Company
Milton Fire Department, Inc. – Ladies Auxiliary
Nur Shrine
Seaford Elks Lodge #2458
St. Helena R.C. Church
Walter L. Fox American Legion Post #2 and Ladies Auxiliary

Ratification of Charitable Gaming Event Permits Issued

Mr. Ascione made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mervine, to approve the charitable gaming permit events listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

AmVets Post 2
Ladies of the Elks Dover Lodge #1903

Loyal Order of the Moose East Sussex #2542
Milford Elks Lodge #2401
Oak Orchard Riverdale American Legion Post 28
American Legion #17
Knights of Columbus – Seton Council 7990
Longneck AmVets Post 22
Mason Dixon Post #7234
Milford Elks Lodge #2401
Ursuline Academy of Wilmington, Delaware, Inc.

Review of Applications for Raffle

Mr. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mervine, to approve the raffle events listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation
Tender Hearts, Inc.
CHILD, Inc.
Salesianum, Inc.

Review of Applications for Charitable Gaming Events

Mr. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ascione, to approve the charitable gaming events listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

Laurel American Legion Post 19
American Legion Post 24

CORRESPONDENCE

Response Letter from Inspection Report

The Board members reviewed the response letter from Milton Century Club and were advised by Ms. Hurley that the gaming inspectors had approved of their response to the inspection report.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

There was no other business before the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Gillespie questioned when the charitable gaming events will be changed to six events per month. He was told by the Board that the regulation change took effect August 11, 2016 and organizations can now apply for six events per month if they wanted to.

Debby Messina mentioned that the Governor should be signing SB254 within the next week. She also stated that she will take the “Queen of Hearts” information from Mr. Maloney and pass it on to Representatives Ennis and Viola for review.

Bessie Staab-Hickman asked if charitable gaming applications could be submitted quarterly or yearly. Ms. Hurley responded that she would seek advice from the Division as to how many can be applied for at a time. Debby Messina raised the concern of Queen of Hearts not being considered a raffle. She stated that the tickets are under \$5 and the pot is under \$5,000 which would mean that no permit would be required in order to play.

She stated cookie jars are a carry-over and they are allowed. Mr. Rauch commented that the cookie jar is not a part of the net profits on the after occasion reports and does not count as a progressive carry-over like the Queen of Hearts would. Ms. Messina stated that what the organizations are looking for is a statement from the Board that the investigators have met and discussed the game and concluded that it is considered a raffle as long as the raffle parameters are followed.

Ms. Singh advised that the Board cannot give blanket advisory opinions because the facts of the game may change and the public should not rely solely on the discussion of the Board. She also stated that the public has access to the meeting minutes online to find information the Board has discussed.

Mr. MacDonald stated that clarity on this issue needs to come from the legislative body with the Board following up and defining the law. He also stated that it is up to the organizations to review the law and rules and regulations to see if there have been changes that they need to follow.

Mr. Rauch stated that raffles are the only games that allow for a ticket and prize limit and because other states call this game a raffle does not mean the State of Delaware calls it a raffle.

Ms. Staab-Hickman commented that organizations that decide to play the Queen of Hearts should be purchasing the game boards from a licensed vendor.

Ms. Messina stated all organizations should clear up their house rules so everything is clear to an inspector that may come to one of their events.

Bonnie Howell stated that there is still no resolution as to where the organizations stand as far as Queen of Hearts being played and if they would be in any violation.

Mr. Rauch commented that the inspectors only go to organizations that have permits issued so they can observe that licensed event.

Mr. MacDonald stated if the inspectors received a report for an unlicensed event and it happened to be for Queen of Hearts they would know it did not have to be licensed if the monetary guidelines were being followed. Mr. Rauch responded that the first two questions he would ask are the price of the ticket and the disputed jackpot amount in order to determine if there was any violation occurring. If everything was fine there would be no violation for unlicensed gaming.

NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Board meeting is Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., Conference Room B, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Cannon Building, Dover, Delaware.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Gant made a motion, seconded by Mr. MacDonald, to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Meredith Hurley
Administrative Specialist II